

Legislative Office Building  
300 Capital Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06160

RE: Judiciary Committee Public Hearing (SB-16, SB-388, HB-5412, HB-5415, HB-5416)

Dear Co-Chair Winfield, Co-Chair Stafstrom, Vice Chair Flexer, Vice Chair Blumenthal, Ranking Member Kissel, Ranking Member Fishbein, and other Members of the Committee,

I am writing today to express my opposition to both Governor's Senate Bill 16 (AN ACT ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE AND JUVENILE CRIME) and Raised House Bill 5416 (AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS), and to express my support for Raised Senate Bill 388 (AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR VEHICLE), Raised House Bill 5412 (AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP), and Raised House Bill 5415 (AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES).

While I applaud the attempt to reduce juvenile crime, bundling this effort with the imposition of further restrictions, regulations, and financial / administrative burdens on lawful gun owners and dealers is a disingenuous and deceptive attempt to further erode the Second Amendment rights of law abiding Connecticut citizens. Juveniles are already prohibited, by law, from owning or possessing firearms, and further restricting lawful adult gun owners will have no effect whatsoever on the levels of juvenile crime. Connecticut is already one of the most heavily restricted and regulated States in the nation regarding gun possession and ownership, and having recently run the gauntlet of the Connecticut gun permitting process myself, I can assure you that no one intent on using a firearm in the commission of a crime is going to take the time (nearly 3 months, in my case) or go to the expense (in excess of \$400, in my case) of procuring a permit so they can legally purchase a gun that can be easily traced back to them. As it is, crimes committed with firearms are rarely prosecuted in Connecticut, so adding more restrictions and regulations to the ponderous assortment already on the books will only serve to further burden Connecticut's most law abiding citizens while having absolutely no effect on the incidence and / or severity of gun crime in the State. Limiting the number of firearms that can be purchased at one time by permit holding, law abiding citizens will similarly have no effect on gun crime in Connecticut. Connecticut would be far better served by more vigorous enforcement and prosecution of existing laws than by adding to an already burdensome regulatory regime. I resolutely OPPOSE both SB-16 and HB-5416, and ask that you OPPOSE them as well.

Also, in the interest of both enhancing a law abiding citizen's ability to defend him or herself against violence and aggression and enabling them to more easily transfer legally possessed and owned firearms and accessories to other law abiding citizens, I strongly SUPPORT SB-388, HB-5412, and HB-5415 and ask that you SUPPORT them as well.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Deptulski  
Putnam, CT